

TRIBUTE TO A TOP-TIER  
COMMUNICATOR

**HON. MICHAEL T. McCAUL**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 21, 2017*

Mr. McCAUL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today out of gratitude to recognize the professional achievements and service of my friend, Susan Phalen. Formerly the Communications Director for the House Homeland Security Committee, Susan now holds the title of Director of External Affairs at FEMA.

Susan's role as Communications Director transcended beyond her leadership in strategy and messaging. Susan's positive demeanor, PR-savvy mindset, and determination made her presence not only a valued component in my day-to-day but a real delight. She served as a spokesperson, confidant and trusted senior advisor whose counsel I always held in the highest regard.

Her expertise in media relations helped to elevate Committee Member and press interaction by hosting "meet and greets" and "pen and pads" to facilitate dialogue and solidify relationships. Susan's talents were most notably on display in her work assisting on CODEL trips abroad. Her interpersonal skills and proficiency in public diplomacy shone throughout trips to Europe, Asia, and the Middle East. She led over one hundred TV interviews during her tenure and oversaw the roll out of nine major Committee reports.

Susan's ability to think outside the box set her apart in developing messages for both domestic and international audiences in the national security space. She had a unique way of seeing things and consistently aimed to address a bigger picture in the anticipation of later trends. This is a skill she acquired from her impressive background in handling crisis communication scenarios in pressure-filled war zones.

Before joining my Committee three years ago, Susan was the Communications Director of the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence and spent more than 15 years as a high-profile communications specialist working in various national security and foreign policy posts with the U.S. State Department among others. She was deployed on nine different tours to Baghdad's dangerous "Green Zone" before spending time in Afghanistan as Director of Strategic Communications and Public Affairs for the Special Inspector General for Afghanistan Reconstruction.

It is not surprising that with this type of background, Susan took on the responsibility as Director of Communications for my Committee with ease and great effectiveness. She left a legacy that has already proven steadfast among her former colleagues and myself. Susan's quick wit, vivacious spirit, and ability to see humor in all things is missed profoundly.

Today, I am honored to be able to put the spotlight on her. While her time at our Committee was only a snapshot into the incredible career she continues to build, her friendship and counsel remain constant. She has already proven to be a steady hand at FEMA during the recent hurricanes, and I am excited to see what she will accomplish next.

CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 1,  
TAX CUTS AND JOBS ACT

SPEECH OF

**HON. KEVIN BRADY**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 19, 2017*

Mr. BRADY of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I want to take a moment to reiterate the importance of dynamic scoring as part of the tax legislative process.

Ever since 1996, when the staff of the Joint Committee on Taxation began to investigate how best to apply macroeconomic analysis to tax legislation, Congressional scorekeepers have continued to hone their expertise and produce ever more sophisticated analyses of various tax reforms. All of this hard work culminated in 2015 when macroeconomic analysis, commonly known as "dynamic scoring," was formally adopted in the House of Representatives for the purposes of official cost estimates for major legislation.

Ever since the formal adoption of dynamic scoring, first in the House and later in the Senate, the goal has been to produce pro-growth tax reform that was informed by the dynamic scoring process. Although a dynamic estimate was not used for official scoring purposes with respect to H.R. 1 due to constraints in the reconciliation process, macroeconomic analysis will be critical to major legislative efforts in the years ahead. It is important that members of Congress be informed by non-partisan analysis about whether legislation under consideration would shrink or grow the economy as well as how that change in growth would affect the nation's finances and, most importantly, the American people.

IN HONOR OF CINDY KNIGHT  
BEING NAMED SENIOR OF THE  
YEAR BY THE SENIOR CENTER  
OF JACKSON HOLE

**HON. LIZ CHENEY**

OF WYOMING

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 21, 2017*

Ms. CHENEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to extend my congratulations to Cindy Knight for being named Senior of the Year by the Senior Center of Jackson Hole. This outstanding accomplishment is a sign of her hard work, leadership, and commitment to the town and people of Jackson.

Throughout her life, Cindy has been committed to helping those in her community, and her passion for promoting literacy is no exception. Being named Senior of the Year is a testament to her leadership and commitment to our community. I am grateful for all that she does to support the people of Jackson and our great state.

Again, Mr. Speaker, I would like to extend my congratulations to Cindy for earning the Senior of the Year Award. She and her family deserve to be extremely proud of this accomplishment.

JUDGE JOHN J. TOOMEY

**HON. LEE M. ZELDIN**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 21, 2017*

Mr. ZELDIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Judge John J. Toomey of St. James, New York. As a soldier in Vietnam, he earned two Bronze Stars and was decorated for valor. Upon returning to the U.S., he graduated from Stony Brook University in 1972 and Hamline University Law School in 1976.

John worked as an Assistant Town Attorney for the Town of Smithtown between 1976 and 1979. He served as a member of the Tenth Judicial Grievance Committee from 1995 until 2002, when he was elected to the District Court bench. In 2010, he was chosen to be the first Presiding Judge of the newly formed Suffolk County Veteran's Court. He considers this to be the highlight of his judicial career. Judge Toomey was elected to the Suffolk County Court in 2011 and is an Acting Surrogate and Acting Supreme Court Justice.

He has earned many awards and recognitions, including the 2008 Judge of the Year award from the Suffolk County Bar Association, the 2014 Peter Sweisgood Award from the Lawyers helping Lawyers Committee of the Suffolk County Bar Association, and he has also been named Man of the Year by the Suffolk County Court Officers' Association.

In addition to his service in the military and on the bench, Judge Toomey has also been an active volunteer with the Saint James Fire Department.

Our country owes a debt of gratitude to Judge Toomey for his decades of selfless service.

TRIBUTE TO DARYL BUSCH

**HON. KEN CALVERT**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 21, 2017*

MR. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to former Perris Mayor Daryl Busch, who passed away in California on Sunday, December 3, 2017. Daryl served the residents of Perris, California, as their mayor from 1999 to 2016, and he will be deeply missed.

Daryl was born on January 31, 1941 in St. Louis, Missouri. The family later moved to the small town of Greenville, Illinois, and while still a teenager, he enlisted in the U.S. Navy where he served three years as a shipboard radar operator on the USS Picking and USS Bryce Canyon. After leaving the service, Daryl and his family re-located to California where he worked as a banker. A promotion to bank manager brought the Busch family to Perris in 1975. Following his career in finance, Mr. Busch owned and operated Amigos Tres Restaurant on D Street before beginning his service in public office.

Daryl was elected to and served six terms as mayor of Perris. During that time he made a tremendous impact on the community, including overseeing the development of projects like the Drop Zone aquatics center, the Big League Dreams sports complex, Mercado Park and Mercado Apartments, the